

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 408

Honoring the American Zoo and Aquarium Association and its accredited member institutions for their continued service to animal welfare, conservation education, conservation research, and wildlife conservation programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 2002

Mr. GILCHREST submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Honoring the American Zoo and Aquarium Association and its accredited member institutions for their continued service to animal welfare, conservation education, conservation research, and wildlife conservation programs.

Whereas there are more than 2,200 animal exhibitors licensed by the Federal Government;

Whereas only 201 of these exhibitors have met the stringent accreditation standards of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association, and these exhibitors represent the premier zoological parks and aquariums in North America and the world;

Whereas more than 136,000,000 people visit American Zoo and Aquarium Association member zoological parks and aquariums each year;

Whereas American Zoo and Aquarium Association member institutions care for more than 800,000 living animals, many of which are among the last representatives of endangered or threatened animal species;

Whereas American Zoo and Aquarium Association member institutions support or conduct over 1,300 field conservation and research projects in over 80 countries and contribute an estimated \$50,000,000 per year to wildlife research internationally and \$50,000,000 to conservation education domestically;

Whereas American Zoo and Aquarium Association member institutions have established the Species Survival Plan program, which consists of long-term plans involving genetically-diverse breeding, habitat preservation, public education, field conservation, and supportive research, to help ensure survival for 140 selected threatened and endangered animal species;

Whereas American Zoo and Aquarium Association member institutions provide formal educational programs to over 12,000,000 people annually and provide training in conservation education for 84,000 teachers annually;

Whereas the American Zoo and Aquarium Association and its member institutions partner with local, State, national, and international governmental agencies in conservation education, research, and programs to enhance wildlife populations and their habitats;

Whereas American Zoo and Aquarium Association zoological parks and aquariums, along with other conservation

groups, have been at the forefront of efforts to save the world's flagship species and were instrumental in the enactment of the African Elephant Conservation Act (Public Law 100–478; 16 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.), the Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997 (Public Law 105–96; 16 U.S.C. 4261 et seq.), the Great Ape Conservation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–411; 16 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), and the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–391; 16 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.); and

Whereas American Zoo and Aquarium Association zoological parks and aquariums collectively employ over 32,400 people nationwide and enlist over 58,000 volunteers who invest over 3,000,000 hours of time in support of American Zoo and Aquarium Association member institutions: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
 2 *concurring)*, That the Congress recognizes and honors the
 3 American Zoo and Aquarium Association and its member
 4 institutions of zoological parks and aquariums for their
 5 dedicated service in animal welfare, conservation edu-
 6 cation, conservation research, and wildlife conservation
 7 programs.

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